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THE CAMDEN MISCELLANY,

VOLUME THE SECOND:

CONTAINING

ACCOUNT OF THE EXPENSES OF JOHN OF BRABANT AND
HENRY AND THOMAS OF LANCASTER, 1292-3.

HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNT OF THE PRINCESS ELIZABETH, 1551-2.

THE REQUEST AND SUITE OF A TRUE-HEARTED ENGLISH-
MAN, WRITTEN BY WILLIAM CHOLMELEY, 1553.

DISCOVERY OF THE JESUITS' COLLEGE AT CLERKENWELL
IN MARCH 1627-8.

TRELAWNY PAPERS.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF WILLIAM TASWELL, D.D.



PRINTED FOR THE CAMDEN SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.L.III.

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AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND ANECDOTES

BY

WILLIAM TASWELL, D.D.,

SOMETIME RECTOR OF NEWINGTON, SURREY, RECTOR OF HERMONDSLEY,

AND PREVIOUSLY

STUDENT OF CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

A.D. 1651—1682.

EDITED BY

GEORGE PERCY ELLIOTT, ESQ.

BARRISTER AT-LAW.

PRINTED FOR THE CAMDEN SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.LII.

INTRODUCTION.

THIS autobiography was originally written in Latin, but has been preserved only in the present translation, which was made by the Author's grandson, the Rev. Henry Taswell, Vicar of Marden, in Herefordshire. The translation has on a fly-leaf the following description :—

“A few anecdotes concerning William Taswell, D.D., Rector of Newington and St. Mary Bermondsey, in Surrey, and his Family. Translated Sept. 1761, after a very poor manner, by H. T., his grandson.

“It is by no means an exact literal translation, but it is a just one as to facts recorded.”

The MS. translation is now in the possession of the Editor, together with the Diary of Dr. Taswell's father-in-law, Archdeacon Lake, which was printed in the former volume of the Camden Miscellany.

THE GENEALOGY of a FAMILY in the WEST, and COMMENTARIES
upon his own LIFE. By W. T., D.D. Translated from the Latin
(a thousand faults committed) by H. T.

NOTWITHSTANDING I am sensible that for these seven years past and upwards my attention has been for the most part fixed towards husbandry, or in employment of an inferior nature, I once more put pen to paper ; not because I am sensible of the accuracy there will be in my performance—the utmost extent of my abilities giving me little room to hope for this—but only to revive again, if possible, a knowledge of myself and letters, which time and my avocations have somewhat effaced. Now, if Cato at sixty years of age made himself thoroughly acquainted with the Greek tongue, it ought by no means to be deemed preposterous in me for to attempt recovering what I have lost in the Roman language at eight and forty. And if Manlius chose after a life of solitude to reassume his office of Dictator, and busy himself in affairs of state once more, it may the less be wondered at that, in treating of the occurrences of my family, I have recourse to a former custom of expressing my sentiments in Latin. And thus much will suffice by way of introduction.

Concerning the parents and sisters and brothers of W. T., D.D.

Not long after the barbarous murder of Charles the First James Taswell married Elizabeth Upsal, a person accomplished as to her person, sensible, and of a very good extraction. He was a considerable merchant in the Isle of Wight, and connected himself to her March 26th, 1649. On the 29th December, 1649, she brought forth a

daughter, named Maria, who, at eight months old, was unfortunately overlaid through the carelessness of the nurse.

In 1650-1, February 20th, they had a son and heir, James, who at this time enjoys the paternal estate, situated in the parish of Lymington, in the county of Somerset. He is married, has seven children, and his wife already big with child.

The third, William, was born May 1st, 1652, on a Saturday, just after sunset, about eight o'clock, who, in relation to his pedigree, would have this only inserted, viz. : that he was born at a seaport town in the Isle of Wight, called Cowes.

The fourth, Elizabeth, born July 7th, 1653, who resigned her soul into the hands of her great Creator soon after.

The fifth, Elizabeth too, born September 14th, 1654, who still retains her virginity, in imitation of a queen of the same name.

The sixth, still-born, October 13th, 1655.

The seventh, Stephen, born 26th December, 1656, has a wife and four children: he lives at Lymington.

The eighth, Maria, born 2nd of May, 1658. A beautiful girl, indeed, who was hurried out of this world by a precipitate fever, which a too immoderate indulgence in eating of cherries occasioned, to the unspeakable grief of her parents. She was buried at Greenwich, in Kent.

The ninth, Ann, born November, 1659, but died soon after.

The tenth, Hannah, born 30th January, 1660-1, about nine o'clock (about the same hour in which I saw the bodies of Cromwell, Bradshaw, Ireton, not long before taken out of the royal depository at Westminster, exposed upon Tyburn gallows). She lives at Lymington, with her husband of an abandoned character, and has three or four children.

The eleventh, Thomas, born 1663, April 20, at Greenwich, in Kent, and died at nine months old.

Maria, the twelfth and last of all the children of James and Elizabeth Taswell, born Feb. 1667, which occasioned my poor mother's death, after having lived forty-three years. My mother was buried

near her beloved Maria the second, in the parish church of Greenwich in Kent, not far from the baptismal font.

And now for the particular incidents which occurred from my infancy almost to the age of eighteen.

About the end of March, 1655, James Taswell, Esq., retiring from the Isle of Wight with his wife and three children, settled at a sea-port town, Brithamston, Sussex; where his mother-in-law, my grandmother, lived. In 1656, June, we took a journey to London. In our way thither our coach by some accident was overturned; the consequences of this were these, my eye was cut, though soon healed up again, and the old lady broke her thigh-bone. After residing in an house for the space of a year, in which time all of us were seized with the small-pox (1657), about the middle of summer we took a very grand house in Bear Lane, near the Custom House.

I have something to say by-the-by; when my elder brother was almost blind through the extreme heavy load of the small-pox, myself only had but one pock in my face, and nowhere else, and from that time I was ever free from the contagion of the small-pox, though I frequently visited persons labouring under that infirmity.

But to return—

On the 29th of May I had the pleasure of seeing King Charles the Second return from his exile. He came in procession to Whitehall, riding between his two brothers, Dukes of York and Gloucester, with a fine red plume in his hat, amidst an august assembly of nobles and esquires.*

At the time Oliver died, I remember a gentleman, coming to my father, asked him if he had heard the news; my father replied in the negative: upon which he told him the Protector was dead. My father stood amazed at this.

About the same time I heard my father discourse concerning poison. He said the nature of poisons greatly contradicted each other: some taken in excess were apt to heat; others again pro-

* It is most probable that this word in the original was *equites*, and should have been translated "knights."

duced a quite contrary effect—that of cold. For instance, a certain woman having prepared her husband a draught, mixed two sorts of poison that she might do his business for him with a greater probability of success: either of these separately must have killed him. But one poison tempered the malignity of the other. He said he had heard this story of his father when but five years old.

About the end of the year 1660, about nine years of age, I was admitted into the lowest class of Westminster School.

About 1662 my father bought a good house at Greenwich, though he lived himself the greatest part of his time in town, employed in merchandise.

In the same year, 1662, my grandfather James Taswell, of Dorsetshire, came to town, aged 74, born in the year 1588.* Staying a little time with us only, he soon returned into the country, and took his own servant to wife: he begat a son the same year of her. He departed this life 1663. On the day he was celebrating his wife's birthday, he drank too much wine, which threw him into a fever.

In the year 1663 my schoolmaster, William James, A.M.,† departed this life; Thomas Knipe‡ succeeded him, since Head

* Baptized at Buckland Newton, 25 July, 1588.

† "William James, scholar of this school under Dr. Busby, elected student of Christ Church, and lastly Second Master of this school. He died the 23rd July, 1663, lamented by all ingenious men that knew him, and was buried near the lower door going into the cloisters."—Dart's *History of St. Peter's, Westminster*, vol. ii. p. 142. See also Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* (by Bliss,) iii. 634.

‡ Thomas Knipe, of Christ Church, B.A. 1660, M.A. 1663, B. and D.D. 1695; Head Master of Westminster School 1695, succeeding the famous Busby; Prebendary of Westminster, 1707; died 1711, aged 73. "For the space of fifty years he, in the School of Westminster, labour'd for the promoting piety and learning; and for sixteen years was Head Master there; which province he happily administer'd, being deeply acquainted with the helps of learning, practis'd to indefatigable industry, and made up of the most humane sweetness. From hence he supplied the University with youth versed in the best discipline, many of whom are now ornaments in the church and state; and more there are who now give earnest of being hereafter so." See the rest of Dart's translation of Dr. Knipe's epitaph in the *History of Westminster Abbey*, ii. 79; and the Latin inscription itself engraved with the monument on the plate at p. 74. It is also printed in Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century*, vol. i. p. 26. See further of Dr. Knipe, in Wood's *Athenæ Oxon.* (by Bliss,) iv. 643.

Master of Westminster School. About the same time Dr. Busby admitted me above the curtain. The two next years, when Busby took little or no care of the fourth class I was in, I made but little proficiency in my learning.

In 1665, when the plague commenced in town, Dr. Busby removed his scholars to Chiswick.* But it spread its baneful influence even to this place. Upon this Dr. Busby called his scholars together, and in an excellent oration acquainted them that he had presided as Head Master over the school twenty-five years, in which time he never deserted it till now. That the exigency of affairs required every person should go to his respective home. I very greedily laid hold of the opportunity of going to Greenwich, where I remained ten months.

It was a custom peculiar to this unhappy time to fasten up the doors of every house in which any person had died, and after having marked it with a red cross to set up this inscription on them—"The Lord have mercy on them!"

The plague at last reached our house, and we sent two maid-servants to the public pest-house. At the time my father and mother lay sick in different beds, and my eldest brother troubled with a tumour in his thigh; but, no one of our family dying, I was soon set at liberty.

In the month of September, when six thousand were swept away each week, my father commanded me to carry some letters to town. It was not without reluctance I obeyed; but at last my duty got the better of my inclinations, and after he had provided me with the herb called angelica and some aromatics, besides eatables in a bag, my kind and indulgent mother giving me too some Spanish wine, I made the best of my way to town. There a variety of distressed objects presented themselves to me, some under the direct influence of the plague, others lame through swellings, others again beckoning to me, and some carrying away upon biers to be buried. In short

* The house at Chiswick, provided as a residence for the scholars of Westminster in seasons of sickness, is still standing, and has latterly been occupied as a printing-office successively by the Messrs. Whittingham, uncle and nephew.

nothing but death stared me in the face; but it pleased God to extricate me from the danger which threatened me. There were two houses which principally engaged my attention among many others I went to; one belonged to Mrs. Harrison, who was the only survivor of her whole family (seven children). The other was my father's house, kept by a good old faithful servant named Johanna, whom I am bound by ties of gratitude to mention with respect. She had the care of me from my infancy. As soon as she saw me she laid hold of me, and, folding her two arms round my neck, she embraced me and said, "My dear boy, how do you do?" Notwithstanding this I returned safe home to Greenwich, acquainting them with the particulars of my journey. This Johanna was seized with the plague and recovered, only one man-servant with her in the house dying.

In the year 1666, about the Easter week, when the violence of the plague was considerably abated, I revisited Westminster School. It was at that time about the middle of May, and it was the time of election for those who were to be admitted King's Scholars, myself being appointed to succeed as thirteenth. The Christmas following twelve scholars were admitted, the thirteenth vacancy not as yet taking place.

The 4th of May, 1667, I was enrolled a King's Scholar by the Bishop of Rochester, Dean of Westminster. I was extremely maltreated during my seven months and two weeks servitude as junior by the monitors, whom a considerable share of power with which they are invested renders insolent; employed chiefly in performing the menial office of a servant, in consequence of this diverted from my studies, and even when freed from this state of slavery could scarce return to them, indulging a lazy disposition.

And not to pass over in silence that memorable event—the Fire of London, September 2; it happened between my election and admission as scholar. On Sunday, between ten and eleven forenoon, as I was standing upon the steps which lead up to the pulpit in Westminster Abbey, I perceived some people below me running to and

fro in a seeming disquietude and consternation; immediately almost a report reached my ears that London was in a conflagration; without any ceremony I took my leave of the preacher, and having ascended Parliament steps, near the Thames, I soon perceived four boats crowded with objects of distress. These had escaped from the fire scarce under any other covering except that of a blanket.

The wind blowing strong eastward, the flames at last reached Westminster; I myself saw great flakes carried up into the air at least three furlongs; these at last pitching upon and uniting themselves to various dry substances, set on fire houses very remote from each other in point of situation.

The ignorant and deluded mob, who upon the occasion were hurried away with a kind of phrenzy, vented forth their rage against the Roman Catholics and Frenchmen; imagining these incendiaries (as they thought) had thrown red-hot balls into the houses.

A blacksmith, in my presence, meeting an innocent Frenchman walking along the street, felled him instantly to the ground with an iron bar. I could not help seeing the innocent blood of this exotic flowing in a plentiful stream down to his ancles.

In another place I saw the incensed populace divesting a French painter of all the goods he had in his shop; and, after having helped him off with many other things, levelling his house to the ground under this pretence, namely, that they thought himself was desirous of setting his own house on fire, that the conflagration might become more general. My brother told me he saw a Frenchman almost dismembered in Moorfields, because he carried balls of fire in a chest with him, when in truth they were only tennis balls.

In this interval of time, when the fury of the common people burst forth with an irresistible torrent upon these unhappy objects of distress, a report on a sudden prevailed that four thousand French and Papists were in arms, intending to carry with them death and destruction, and increase the conflagration. Upon which every person, both in city and suburbs, having procured some sort of weapon

or other, instantly almost collected themselves together to oppose this chimerical army.

On the next day, John Dolben, Bishop of Rochester and Dean of Westminster (who in the civil wars had frequently stood sentinel), collected his scholars together in a company, marching with them on foot to put a stop if possible to the conflagration. I was a kind of page to him, not being of the number of King's Scholars. We were employed many hours in fetching water from the back side of St. Dunstan's Church in the East, where we happily extinguished the fire.

The next day, Tuesday, just after sunset at night, I went to the royal bridge* in the New Palace [Yard] at Westminster, to take a fuller view of the fire. The people who lived contiguous to St. Paul's church raised their expectations greatly concerning the absolute security of that place upon account of the immense thickness of its walls and its situation; built in a large piece of ground, on every side remote from houses. Upon this account they filled it with all sorts of goods; and besides, in the church of St. Faith, under that of St. Paul's, they deposited libraries of books because it was entirely arched all over; and with great caution and prudence every the least avenue through which the smallest spark might penetrate was stopped up. But this precaution availed them little. As I stood upon the bridge among many others, I could not but observe the gradual approaches of the fire towards that venerable fabric. About eight o'clock it broke out on the top of St. Paul's Church, already scorched up by the violent heat of the air, and lightning too, and before nine blazed so conspicuous as to enable me to read very clearly a 16mo. edition of Terence which I carried in my pocket.

* In the original no doubt *pons regalis*; which should have been translated "The King's Bridge." The landing-place in New Palace Yard was so called, or else Westminster Bridge; and that in Cotton Garden (subsequently Parliament Stairs) was called the Queen's Bridge. See some remarks on these names in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1852, vol. xxxvii. pp. 487, 577.

On Thursday, soon after sunrising, I endeavoured to reach St. Paul's. The ground so hot as almost to scorch my shoes; and the air so intensely warm that unless I had stopped some time upon Fleet Bridge to rest myself, I must have fainted under the extreme languor of my spirits. After giving myself a little time to breathe, I made the best of my way to St. Paul's.

And now let any person judge of the violent emotion I was in when I perceived the metal belonging to the bells melting; the ruinous condition of its walls; whole heaps of stone of a large circumference tumbling down with a great noise just upon my feet, ready to crush me to death. I prepared myself for returning back again, having first loaded my pockets with several pieces of bell metal.

I forgot to mention that near the east walls of St. Paul's a human body presented itself to me, parched up as it were with the flames; whole as to skin, meagre as to flesh, yellow as to colour. This was an old decrepid woman who fled here for safety, imagining the flames would not have reached her there. Her clothes were burnt, and every limb reduced to a coal.

In my way home I saw several engines which were bringing up to its assistance all on fire, and those concerned with them escaping with great eagerness from the flames, which spread instantaneous almost like a wildfire; and at last, accoutred with my sword and helmet, which I picked up among many others in the ruins, I traversed this torrid zone back again.

The papers, half burnt, were carried with the wind to Eton. The Oxonians observed the rays of the sun tinged with an unusual kind of redness. A black darkness seemed to cover the whole hemisphere; and the bewailings of people were great.

It could not be expected that my father's houses should escape this almost general conflagration. They shared the same fate with others. But what rendered our loss still greater was this: certain persons, assuming the character of porters, but in reality nothing else but downright plunderers, came and offered their assistance in removing our goods: we accepted; but they so far availed them-

selves of our service as to steal goods to the value of forty pounds from us.

There was a large vaulted cellar under our house, where my father kept particular sorts of wood, and some combustible matter, too, for the sake of making some experiments. These were found entire afterwards, contrary to what I had observed in other like places where great citizens placed fuel in, &c. The fire was not extinguished four months afterwards.

About the beginning of the year 1670, the funeral obsequies of General Monk were celebrated; previously to which a royal vault was opened in which were two urns; one appropriated to Queen Mary, the other to Queen Elizabeth. I dipped my hand into each. I took out of each a kind of glutinous red substance, somewhat resembling mortar. That of Mary only contained less moisture.

The 2nd of May, 1670, the public election came on. Electors, Dr. Fell, afterwards Bishop of Oxford; Dr. Compton, Sub-Dean of Christ Church, afterwards Bishop of London: these from Oxford. From Cambridge—Dr. Pierson, Master of Trinity College, afterwards Bishop of Chester, with his Assessor.

Candidates:—

William Breach, M.D., and now student of Christ Church.

William Taswell.

Daniel Skinner, afterwards student of Christ Church.

Samuel Fisher, whom I succeeded in my rectory at Norwich.*

Acton Cremer.

Martin Joyce, who in 1672 died at Cambridge.

Egedius Thornbury,† now Chaplain to Lord Northumberland.

Samuel Willson, now Rector of a church in Ireland.

Morer, Harper, and Mapledoft I had forgot.

It was the 4th day of May when the statutes of Queen Elizabeth were read relating to the election, in which are inserted these words

* So the MS. but it should be Wood Norton, co. Norfolk.

† Giles Thornbury, of Brazenose College, graduated B.A. Oct. 26, 1686.



1673.]

OF WILLIAM TASWELL, D.D.

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—tres jubeo, plures opto. Therefore the electors consigned four to Oxford and as many to Cambridge. Each of these universities have the preference in election by rotation; but in 1670 Oxford elected first. The Oxonians first elected Breach. The Cantabrigians, Mapledoft. The former again proposed Harper, a young man of learning, but void of morals; therefore, being superseded, they elected William Taswell. The latter, however, admitted Harper. The Oxonians again proposed Skinner, proud, empty, and void of learning; therefore, superseding him, they chose Samuel Fisher, of a very good heart, and studious besides. The Cantabrigians, however, elected Skinner.

The other two were Cremer and Joyce; the former to Oxford, the other to Cambridge; so that Breach, Taswell, Fisher, and Cremer, were elected for Oxford; and Mapledoft, Harper, Skinner, and Joyce for Cambridge.

The three remaining candidates were Morer, Thornbury, and Willson. However, by the recommendation of the Earl of Montgomery, his godfather, Willson was enrolled among the Christ Church ones.

About the end of June following we took our leave of Westminster, and on the 29th of the same month, St. Peter's day, we reached Oxford.

The next day I was admitted with the rest into college, and soon after matriculated. We all of us lived as commoners till the 19th of December, when we were enrolled as students. I had a separate room allowed me, without the inconvenience of chumming, and prosecuted my studies alone. I wainscoted this room, and lived in it thirteen years.

In the next year, 1673, my father married Elizabeth Kingsmill, sister of one of the same name, with a fortune of six hundred pounds, at Andover. Soon after the wedding I was sent for to Greenwich, and after staying there a month I returned to college.

My father indulged his new bride so far as to esteem all his children for nought in comparison of her. He withdrew his allow-

ance from them all, that he might live more luxuriously with her. Upon this account my elder brother went into the navy, and was in three engagements against the Dutch; and afterwards retired to India in the East as a merchant. My younger brother sailed to Jamaica, where he remained till my father's death. My elder sister lived as an attendant on a lady formerly a messmate of hers. My younger sister determined to submit to all the drudgery at home rather than seek her victuals out from home. I, in the meantime (my allowance being withdrawn), lived at Oxford in a state of great indigence. Which way to turn myself I knew not; or how I should extricate myself from debt was a question. If parsimony and frugality would have enabled me to keep within bounds, I should have thought myself happy. But my necessary expenses would have run away with my allowance if it had been doubled. The misfortune too was, I was not old enough to go into orders, and incapable too of any employment which might render my circumstances easy in life. And as I was always looked upon as a gentleman, I was ashamed to lay open the real exigency of my affairs; and, on the other hand, to be thought covetous and close-fisted because I withdrew myself from my acquaintance by an act of necessity only, I own galled me extremely; therefore a sad melancholy seized me. I spent my time for whole weeks chiefly in walking about my room. I could not apply my mind to study. If I attempted to read any thing, my thoughts wandered elsewhere. I wrote to my father several times, and entreated him to send me sixteen pounds at least, since the rest had not less than twenty; or, if he would not comply with this, to portion me out 1,020*l.* for my fortune, and I promised him in return to forego my claim to everything afterwards. He alleged that my income at college was sufficient to maintain me; and, to conceal his barbarity under a more plausible form, accused me of crimes which to this day I never was guilty of, and which rendered me unworthy of his paternal care, as he pretended.

However, at last, being overcome by the pressing solicitations of my friends as well as my own, he sent me ten pounds; but with so

ill a grace, and so many reproaches, as to injure me in the very act itself.

In this year the statue of king Charles the Second on horseback was placed upon the Conduit;* and, as there was wanting an inscription to it, I composed these verses by order of the Dean:—

Carole, cum totum tenes (maris arbiter) orbem,
 Et salit ad domini subdita lympha pedes,
 Æquoreo sumas insignia debita regi,
 Excelsusque premas terga frementis equi.
 Neptuni poteras sed contempsisse tridentem,
 Regali gestas qui tria sceptrā manu.

An anecdote by the way—About this time one Peter Birch† (now Prebendary of Westminster), who was educated for four years, and deeply tinged with fanatic principles in that time, never putting on an academical habit, nor gaining admittance into any college, but privately instructed by a tutor, changed his sentiments in religious matters, conforming himself to the Church of England as by law established. In consequence of which he petitioned the Convocation that, after having performed the exercises, he might be admitted A.B. and then A.M. immediately. This they consented to; and myself, willing to do him any service that lay in my power, opposed him, and responded *vice versâ* previous to his being made senior Soph.

In 1673, Jonathan Trelawny, then student of Christ Church, now Bishop of Exeter, being to determine, desired me to answer Under Bachelor for him, which I did.

June 23, 1673, my wife, Francisca Lake, was born.

In the beginning of the year 1674, I was examined by W. Short-

* Carfax conduit. See an engraving of this public monument (now removed to Nuneham Courtenay) in Skelton's *Oxonia Illustrata*.

† B.A. March 23, 1673; M.A. June 23, 1674; B.D. Feb. 4, 1683; D.D. July 7, 1688. He died July 4, 1710, and was buried in the abbey church of Westminster, near St. Benet's chapel.—Dart, ii. 72.

grove,* Fellow of Wadham, for my degree of A.B. He is now rector of a church near Northampton.

About this time my father sent me fourteen pounds, but took care to reproach me so heavily as determined me never to correspond with him again, unless I could be certain of his treating me with more humanity. A profound silence thereupon succeeded for eighteen months.

I took my degree in Easter term, 1674.

Having received no supplies from my father, I began to think of living with frugality.

Several advantages accrued to me from taking my degree. 1. I saved four pounds per year, which I used to pay my tutor; 2. Was moderator at disputations, which brought me four pounds; 3. The Dean,† hearing of my father's ill-treatment of me, frequently made me a present of two pounds, at the same time telling me it was designed as a reward of merit. Besides, my studentship was of greater emolument to me after I had taken my degree than before. Under these advantages I supported myself, 1674.

1675 was appointed by Busby examiner of the Hebrew tongue; this was an addition of six pounds more. The Dean gave me this year four pounds.

In 1675, after I had determined in Lent, and having bought a horse, I took a jaunt to Andover, where my father-in-law,‡ John Kingsmill, Esq., treated me with great civility.

Before I returned to college I saw Old and New Salisbury, Winchester, and Wilton House, which is the seat of the Earl of Pembroke.§ In the gardens of this were very curious waterworks. There was a rock with a bird sitting on it on one side; on the other

* William Shortgrave, B.A. 1670; M.A. 1673.

† Dr. Fell.

‡ This must be another mis-translation. Mr. Kingsmill was probably the brother of his step-mother. See before, p. 15.

§ The fullest account of Wilton House at this period is contained in Aubrey's *Natural History of Wiltshire*, printed for the Wiltshire Topographical Society, 1847, 4to

side were some waters conveyed through pipes, which on its rising and falling resembled greatly the warbling of birds. In another place there was a looking-glass, in which, if any lady beheld her face, a pipe under her feet was sure to convey the water to her thighs. If a man was curious in that way too, a pipe constructed behind him would convey the water into his breeches. In another place water was conveyed instantly out of a pavement with a prodigious force indeed, and so as to be raised six ells by degrees; when the water rose three ells, a pine-apple was seen upon the top; and the water still rising, together with the pine-apple, when it had got six ells high, one might observe the pine-apple sporting and playing upon the surface of the water. In another place, the waters gushing out on both sides of me, formed a kind of arch over me, so that any one might walk without wetting himself under it, the same as if under a shade of elms.

In the house I observed the marble of a certain room over the fire-place was so finely polished as to reflect, with the same perspicuity as a looking-glass, the spire of Salisbury church, three miles distant from the house.

From thence I went to Southampton, a seaport town. The passage from this place to the Isle of Wight was commodious enough. Southampton is distant from the Isle of Wight six leagues; a small bay of the sea intervenes, two leagues in breadth. About five leagues from Southampton, a long bed of sand shows itself, distant four miles from the right shore, and above eight miles from the left, which is called the Brambles. The ships commonly go the broader way, the left. But the master of our vessel, having unloosed his sails in expectation of receiving aboard John Croft, merchant of Southampton, resolved to go the shortest way to the right, in order to recover the time he lost in that interview. Evening was now coming on, and a strong eastward wind; nevertheless, he persevered in his primary intention. A strong tempest now rising, he was unable to guide the ship. That which held the sail that went across the top of the mast being torn away with great violence, the sail was

grove,* Fellow of Wadham, for my degree of A.B. He is now rector of a church near Northampton.

About this time my father sent me fourteen pounds, but took care to reproach me so heavily as determined me never to correspond with him again, unless I could be certain of his treating me with more humanity. A profound silence thereupon succeeded for eighteen months.

I took my degree in Easter term, 1674.

Having received no supplies from my father, I began to think of living with frugality.

Several advantages accrued to me from taking my degree. 1. I saved four pounds per year, which I used to pay my tutor; 2. Was moderator at disputations, which brought me four pounds; 3. The Dean,† hearing of my father's ill-treatment of me, frequently made me a present of two pounds, at the same time telling me it was designed as a reward of merit. Besides, my studentship was of greater emolument to me after I had taken my degree than before. Under these advantages I supported myself, 1674.

1675 was appointed by Busby examiner of the Hebrew tongue; this was an addition of six pounds more. The Dean gave me this year four pounds.

In 1675, after I had determined in Lent, and having bought a horse, I took a jaunt to Andover, where my father-in-law,‡ John Kingsmill, Esq., treated me with great civility.

Before I returned to college I saw Old and New Salisbury, Winchester, and Wilton House, which is the seat of the Earl of Pembroke.§ In the gardens of this were very curious waterworks. There was a rock with a bird sitting on it on one side; on the other

* William Shortgrave, B.A. 1670; M.A. 1673.

† Dr. Fell.

‡ This must be another mis-translation. Mr. Kingsmill was probably the brother of his step-mother. See before, p. 15.

§ The fullest account of Wilton House at this period is contained in Aubrey's *Natural History of Wiltshire*, printed for the Wiltshire Topographical Society, 1847, 4to.

side were some waters conveyed through pipes, which on its rising and falling resembled greatly the warbling of birds. In another place there was a looking-glass, in which, if any lady beheld her face, a pipe under her feet was sure to convey the water to her thighs. If a man was curious in that way too, a pipe constructed behind him would convey the water into his breeches. In another place water was conveyed instantly out of a pavement with a prodigious force indeed, and so as to be raised six ells by degrees; when the water rose three ells, a pine-apple was seen upon the top; and the water still rising, together with the pine-apple, when it had got six ells high, one might observe the pine-apple sporting and playing upon the surface of the water. In another place, the waters gushing out on both sides of me, formed a kind of arch over me, so that any one might walk without wetting himself under it, the same as if under a shade of elms.

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some sort of countenance from learned men ; he sent me at the same time four pounds. Hence I began to form expectations of recovering my former allowance ; but as soon as the affair of money came upon the carpet we were enemies again.

The Dean proposed in the chapter that an annual exhibition, one of those originally intended to assist poor students, might be assigned to me. But this was objected to by a Canon now living, who made answer that these exhibitions were set apart for those who have no parents, or such as could not well support them—that my father had 1500*l.* a year, and that by assigning this to me they might encourage other parents to follow his example, and throw off the burden of educating their children. This objection was allowed.

In 1676, the Dean proposed for me to take a school with a salary of 50*l.* ; and likewise to get me tutor to two young noblemen's sons near Oxford. But I preferred poverty for the present instead of receiving a decent maintenance and excluding myself the university, and all further prospects besides there. When money failed me I sold my books, the least necessary ones ; and besides was elected Moderator.

I took my brother's behaviour to me amiss in that, sending goods from India to the amount of 40*l.*, he never made any acknowledgment for the favours I had conferred upon him.

This year died my younger sister Mary, who being born just before my mother died in childbed, was never hearty since ; my mother complained at that time of her ill state of health, and, growing every day weaker, died on the twelfth day after her birth, having baffled the efforts of the ablest physician. This my eldest sister related.

This year, 1676, as my father was overlooking the workmen employed in building his new seat in Somersetshire,* he stood close by the garden wall. In this interval came up a waggon loaded with stone ; the horses taking fright made immediately towards the wall, and pressed the waggon against my father in such a manner that unless the wall had given way this must have been the last day

* Situate in the parish of Limington, near Ilchester. The family arms are still to be seen on the front of the old manor-house, but the property has passed into other hands.

my father would ever have seen. Nevertheless, my father kept his bed for six weeks wrapped up in flannel, and never was well after it.

In 1677 I was to take my degree of A.M. I wanted for this purpose 10*l*. The Dean gave me 2*l*., my father 6*l*. voluntary; this was the last I ever received from him. Henry Parkhurst, Fellow of Corpus Christi College, examined me for my degree. I was now very poor myself; notwithstanding, I always gave something every day to the poor, which I observed for several years with great strictness.

After I had taken my degree, I was taken sick in a coffee-house as I was smoking my pipe, and, being very sick as to my stomach, I went out of doors and threw my dinner up, for which reason I never smoked afterwards.

This year the Bishop* thought fit to publish a more correct edition of St. Cyprian.† He made use of me in comparing the manuscripts with the original texts.

The Bishop this year advised me to go into orders, and told me he would think of me. I deferred the affair, preferring college to the country.

Two things happened to produce a coldness between me and the Bishop of Oxford:—first, an election for Public Orator, Dr. South,‡

* Dr. Fell, late Dean of Christ Church, had been raised to the see of Oxford in Jan. 1676.

† Oxon. 8vo, 1678. St. Cyprian was a great favourite with Bishop Fell. He completed an edition of his works in folio, Oxon, 1682; having published a translation of his treatise on the Unity of the Church in 1681, 4to. "Having assisted Bishop Fell, the pious and learned editor of St. Cyprian, in comparing several manuscripts, in order to his new edition, by this means I became well acquainted with the writings of that primitive father; which may serve as an excuse for my quoting him so often, if it needs any apology. The schismaticks of his time, and those of the hierarchy that countenanced them, were so like some that have since appeared, that the pictures which he has drawn of Novatus, Novatianus, and Stephanus (Epist. 52, 55, 60, 74, and 75), if exposed to publick view, would be taken for modern faces."—Postscript to Dr. Taswell's *Artifices and Impostures of False Teachers*.

‡ Robert South, B. and D.D., 1663.

Canon of Christ Church, having resigned after a faithful discharge of that office for eight years.

The competitors—Mr. Manningham,* now D.D. of New College; Mr. Bayley, now D.D.,† Magdalene College.

Bayley had made several excellent speeches in convocation—a prudent man, and unblemished as to his morals.

Manningham never spoke but once before the university, and in a trifling manner too, always cutting low jokes and little to the purpose. He endeavoured to avail himself greatly by exciting laughter. Nevertheless, our Bishop became an advocate for him, through the intercession of the Warden of New College ‡; myself, on the contrary, contracting a great intimacy with the people of Magdalen, promised to vote of their side. Many people kept their vote in suspense, waiting to see which side the Bishop would vote. This servility I always detested.

After the candidates were declared, I gave my vote to my friends. When the day of election was come, the Bishop, imagining his party would carry it, left no stone unturned in favour of Manningham. He made an oration before us all, and told us how powerful we were at elections in comparison of other colleges upon account of the number of our votes; nevertheless said, we for the most part carried on matters so imprudently as not to influence elections more than the least colleges; for as in conjunction we might produce seventy votes, so, when torn to pieces by different and contrary interests, we seldom brought more than ten votes on one side, whereas the least college in the university united among themselves exceeded us by two votes. Therefore he exhorted us to agree and prove a counterbalance to the rest. This was plausible enough, but not sincere; for in other elections, when he distrusted the strength of his own party, he spoke nothing concerning unity, but left every one

* Thomas Mannyngham, B.A. 1673; M.A. 1676; but he did not proceed to the degree of D.D. at Oxford.

† Thomas Bayley, B.A. 1662; M.A. 1665; B.D. 1675; D.D. 1684.

‡ John Nicholas, D.D. then Vice-Chancellor.

to vote as he pleased; and this was as it should be, when we consider that every one is obliged by his oath to choose a proper person for that office. Nevertheless we went over to the Bishop's side, and promised our votes, which was the more shocking as it is probable that motives of interest or fear prevailed most, and as it is ordained by the statutes that no person be acquainted except the proctors with your manner of voting, or whom you shall give your vote to, and they are sworn not to divulge it.

When the scrutiny came, Bayley had the majority by one. A great dispute arose upon this, and Manningham's friends started many reasons for not giving the affair up; in short, what should have been construed an injury against us, they by the influence of some considerable person justified as a meritorious act. We went to convocation, and each person voted his own particular way. After we had been there an hour, Dr. Bouchier,* an explainer of the statutes, raised an objection which sunk the expectations of Bayley's friends. It is provided by the statutes, that every person who chooses to stand for this office shall present himself in convocation, and declare by oath that he has not used any mercenary methods to procure a vacancy. Bayley was at this time in Gloucestershire, and therefore they said all his votes were not of the least service to him: neither would the Vice-Chancellor, who was of New College, permit Bayley's friends to vote again, because they had taken an oath to name only one person for once. This enraged us a good deal, to have so many votes cut off. Immediately that party whom we expected to have swallowed up by a majority of votes declared themselves free, since Bayley's election would not stand, and there were not wanting many attempts to draw me over on the side of the Bishop; but it was in vain; I stood by the people of Magdalen that time, and presently we put in nomination William Cradocke,† a fellow of that college. The whole convocation resounded in favour

* Thomas Bouchier, of All Souls' College, D.C.L. 1663.

† B.A. 1678, M.A. 1681, Proctor 1689, B.D. 1690, D.D. 1693.

of Cradocke; and after having taken the oath he was elected Public Orator.

Another thing happened this year which exasperated the Bishop of Oxford against me. William Lancaster, A.B. of Queen's College, now D.D. and Rector of St. Martin's,* was very insolent and saucy to Mr. Clerke, of All Souls',† now Proctor, and formerly of Christ Church, and besides was very rude to Mr. Fisher, my fellow-companion,‡ a modest and learned man, and this, too, in the public walk of the schools, contrary to that reverence which the statutes required him to pay his seniors; the contempt which he shewed upon the occasion being a just reason for deferring his degree one twelvemonth, unless satisfaction was immediately given to the party injured. That the Proctor, therefore, might have redress for this attack upon him, he was obliged to ask public pardon upon his knees in convocation, acknowledging the heinousness of his offence; but at the same time that he performed this, laughed at him in his sleeve, and putting out his tongue made faces at him several times; and, after he had just asked pardon, said that he should not be able to prevent himself from heaping fresh reproaches upon him. He held Mr. Fisher in so much disdain as absolutely to refuse asking him pardon; therefore when he petitioned for his grace, in order to be admitted A.M., I held up and put a negative to it three times, and gave in my reasons in writing to the Vice-Chancellor, as the statutes require. Then he spoke to Fisher, and in a suppliant manner asked him pardon; Mr. Fisher, being a good-natured man, pardoned him at once. At the same time the Provost of Queen's persuaded the Bishop to call to me, and desire me to withdraw my objections. The Bishop called to me, not in a friendly manner, but rather seemed to dictate with a kind of magisterial tone how I should act. Myself having suffered myself frequently to be led, and seldom compelled to

* William Lancaster, B.A. 1674, M.A. 1678, B.D. 1690, D.D. 1692; afterwards Provost of Queen's.

† John Clerke, of Christ Church, B.A. 1669; of All Souls', M.A. 1673.

‡ Probably Samuel Fisher, of Christ Church, B.A. 1674, M.A. 1677.

do any thing, answered that I stood up in defence of the Proctor, and, unless he had satisfaction made him, could not desert his cause. His grace proposed the next day passed the majority of the convocation, Fisher himself voting for him.

About the end of this year, William Cradocke, Public Orator, died; and my tutor, William Wyat,* student of Christ Church, succeeded him.

I always observed this (though not obliged to it), never to omit going to prayers once in a day at least; and I would have observed this my whole life if possible, but different situations require different means of religious worship.

This year I read a book wrote by the author of *The Whole Duty of Man*, upon Contentedness,† and which proved a source of great comfort to me in my troubles afterwards.

I will mention some verses I composed in 1677 upon the marriage of the Prince of Orange with Mary the daughter of the Duke of York, afterwards Queen of England:

AD PRINCIPEM.

Julia, cum Cæsar Pompeio bella parabat,
 Distulit ambobus sanguine juncta duces.
 Hinc Cæsar Gallos petiit victricibus armis,
 Subjecitque suo Celtica colla jugo.
 Sic tibi cum socero sit conjux federis auctrix,
 Sentiat et vires Gallia victa tuas.
 Ad pugnam socios ne provocet Anglia Belgas,
 Sed quæ vos jungunt vincula, regna ligent.

VOTUM PRO REDITU.

Fœlici redeas tandem cum conjuge cursu,
 Neve maris facies torva retardet iter;

* B.A. 1662, M.A. 1665.

† "The Art of Contentment, by the Author of *The Whole Duty of Man*," was first published in 1675, at the Theatre in Oxford.

Securos certè servabit pontus amantes,
 Fertur amatorum qui peperisse Deam.
 Concita plus solito si surgunt æquora, tantum
 Saltat successu lætior unda tuo.

About the end of this year, 1679, not yet initiated into holy orders, I performed the part of Respondent in the Divinity School for a term, in the absence of Mr. Gold.

Opponents, Zachariah Isham,* now D.D., and Rector of a church near the Bishop's Gate, in London, and Magister Bayley,† now D.D. and Principal of New-inn-hall, in the University of Oxford.

Questions:—

An ulla lege divina teneantur Christiani ad observationem Sabbati?—Neg.

An præceptum de Sabbato fuit ceremoniale?—Aff.

We disputed a long time; and, after the affair was ended, Dr. Allestree,‡ who frequently officiated for the King's Professor of Divinity, having descended the rostrum, came and thanked me for disputing. I forgot to mention that he went to Dr. Fell, afterwards, and told him I was worthy of his particular favour and esteem.

The end of the year 1679.

About the beginning of this year, 1680, the Bishop of Oxford, who had neglected me for two years, committed six young pupils to my care. After this Roger Sheldon, a relation of the bishop's, recommended another; Richard Roderick, another; Mr. Allestree, a relation of the Royal Professor, another; Dr. Jane, another.

After this I never was without money as long as I stayed in the university. I bought several books, clothes, a silver-hilted sword,

* Zaccheus Isham, of Christ Church, B.A. 1671, M.A. 1674, B.D. 1682, D.D. 1689. He was Rector of St. Botolph's, Aldersgate, and of Solihull, co. Warwick; a Prebendary of Canterbury and St. Paul's; and died 1705. See Baker's Northamptonshire, i. 264.

† Thomas Bayley, of Christ Church, B.A. 1670, of New Inn Hall, M.A. 1673, Principal of that Hall, 1684, B. and D.D. 1687.

‡ Richard Allestree, of Christ Church, created D.D. Oct. 1660, Regius Professor of Divinity, and Provost of Eton.

a gold watch, and many cups, besides a great number of bows and arrows, with which I exercised myself sometimes, and at no small price. In short, whatever my desire could fancy I had.

Having a good while sustained the want of necessaries, and contracting a sort of melancholy, I thought nothing so likely to animate me as an abundance of every thing. But even all these daily experience made me sensible of their nauseousness, and when I had got for the present what I thought would satisfy me, there was yet something wanting to complete my desires. And not being quite dismayed in adversity I grew nice in prosperity, and bore the frowns of fortune with a more even temper than I did its smiles. I knew ethics well enough to dispute upon any subject, but knew not well how to calm my passions or regulate my life properly from my study of them. I gave diligent attendance to my pupils, and loved them as children; and took especial care not to permit any thing which might prove a bad precedent. If I was wrong in anything, it was by exercising too much lenity rather than acts of severity.

In 1681 the Parliament met at Oxford; but it was soon dissolved, because attempts were made to exclude James Duke of York the succession. About this time James Hyde, uncle to Queen Mary, who was going into Scotland with James Duke of York, made me a visit. A sad accident prevented his arrival there—the loss of his ship at sea.

Afterwards I went to London to see my father, from whom I had been absent ten years. As soon as he saw me he said, How came you here? I answered him, that I came to pay him a visit. He answered, he could wish I would stay till I was sent for. Upon which I told him I would comply with his request for the future. After perceiving his disposition, I took my seat, and he began to talk familiarly with me, and advised me to take orders.

I contracted an intimacy with Sir Edward Dering,* Knight and

* Sir Edward Dering, of Surenden Dering in Kent, the second Baronet, son of Sir Edward the learned antiquary and parliamentary orator. He represented Kent in Parliament from 1660 until his death in 1684, and was a Commissioner of the Treasury.

Baronet, President of the merchants who trafficked to Hudson's Bay, and went to see him. I drank some Spanish wine, six years old, out of a golden cup presented to him by the merchants. He was well versed in the Latin tongue as well as Greek, but most of all addicted to the study of astrology, and to calculating nativities. I often disputed with him upon that topic, though with modesty, lest I should offend him. He, on the contrary, defended that study, and desired me to employ some of my vacant hours in it. He desired me to meet him at a tavern; where, being arrived, there were present besides, Bernard* doctor of physic, and his brother† a surgeon, esteemed the most skilful in his way, and John Gadbury.‡ This man calculated my nativity according to the strict rules of astrology, and gave it me into my hand. I received it, but not with a confidence that what he wrote was true. If you go upon certainty, says I, only foretell to me two or three events, which if they should happen would infallibly render me a proselyte of yours; but, if otherwise, shall expect you to desert so vain and empty a pursuit.

After consulting each other, Dering and Gadbury came to me and told me that they themselves would give no credit to their profession if these three circumstances they were going to relate did not actually come to pass.

1. That Charles II., after the burial of Queen Catherine, would have a son of another wife, who should be born after his death.

2. That Louis XIV. would die in 1682.

3. That the Earl of Shaftesbury, who at that time favoured the rebellion, would be beheaded.

So much for astrology, since the greatest champions for it never

* Francis Bernard, M.D., physician to King James the Second: see an account of his library, and his epitaph, in Nichols's *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century*, vol. iv. p. 105.

† Charles Bernard, serjeant-surgeon to Queen Anne in 1702: of whom see the same work, in the page preceding the last reference.

‡ Some curious notices of this famous astrologer have been collected by Mr. Blencowe in his *Sydney Papers*.

could judge with certainty concerning future contingencies. I always esteemed astrology among those "curious arts," whose advocates, after they were converted to Christ by the Apostles, came and burnt their books in the presence of the multitude, and it is evident from the Epiphany that this study was prohibited by the Apostles. Therefore, returning to college, I could not be easy till I had thrown the account of my nativity in the fire. Dering foretold happy times for me from 36 until 48 years of my age, when he said I should have a bastard. In this interval I spent my time unhappy and inglorious. With regard to my having a bastard, the 48 years passed by me, when I had never laid with any other woman but my own wife.

In 1681 Mr. Clerke, who in 1678 had been Proctor and Fellow of Allsouls, being rector and patron of a living, and having 400*l.* left him by his father, sent letters to me and invited me to be his curate, promising me 50*l.* per annum to serve for him: he at this time laboured under an ill state of health. I forgot to mention that I was to have my table besides. I excused myself in that I was not in orders, and the more readily declined serving it because I thought I should be promoted if I stayed longer in the university. Not long after, Mr. Clerke died, and I did not, I think, enough consult my own profit in refusing this offer. But I never was of that disposition to covet riches any further than as they administered to the necessities and conveniences of life. Yet, by the way, I never thought them contemptible; but at that time I was more desirous of honour than riches. This I will not deny.

About the end of this year, when a melancholy entirely seized me, I wrote many meditations and soliloquies, which comforted me, and feigned certain admonitions as coming from my deceased mother, in order that they might make a deeper impression.

The Church of England has appointed many days of abstinence, in which there is no supper provided at college. These nights were so far from being kept as they should be, that we commonly lived more sumptuously than usual, at inns or coffee-houses. Cramming

myself with meat and drink, this way of living hurt me so much that, sometimes laying myself down on my back, at others on my belly, at others on one side, I could not sleep, and a *κεφαλαλγία* troubled me. To repel this disease, I resolved for the future to live more abstemiously, and to abstain from intemperance of drinking. But this was but idle; for I broke this resolution continually, either in complying with the pressing solicitations of my friends, or in being ensnared by the deceitfulness of wine and its enchantments. Therefore, to conquer this evil habit of mine, I thought it necessary to bind myself under a religious vow. But, fearing lest I might break this through a weakness of my own, I consented to it under certain restrictions, and to this purpose, viz.: I will abstain by the assistance of God from intemperance; if I offend myself I will give sixpence or a shilling to the poor; and lest I should deprive myself of a freedom of choice I do not make this a perpetual obligation, but only a temporary one. Besides, lest I should forget myself and have recourse to my former gratifications, and persuade myself that I only meditated such a vow, but never made it, I committed the affair to writing; and to the end that it might not be understood by any of the college servants in case it should fall into their hands, I expressed myself in Greek verse,—

“Ὅσπρεα καὶ καρποὺς μέτ’ ἀνάκλινιν Ἡελίοιο
 Οὐκ ἐθέλω φαγεῖν, ἢ μέγα δεῖπνον εἶδειν,
 Οὐδὲ πιεῖν τρίτατον τὸ ποτήριον ἀμφικύπελλον·
 Καὶ γὰρ χθὲς κεφαλὴ λῖαν ἔχεσκε κακῶς,
 Οὐδὲ γλυκύς βλεφάροισιν ἐφίζανεν ὕπνιος ἑμοῖσιν.
 Τούτον μαρτὺρ ἔσῃ μηνῆς ἐς ἑπτα, Θεός.

About Christmas 1681 I was made Greek Professor of Christ Church, and the next year Censor.

1681-2, 2nd March, I was admitted a Deacon, five years after taking my Master of Arts degree, by bishop Fell; and three months afterwards, 1682, June 11, admitted into Priest's orders by the same bishop.

I have many things to relate concerning the Parliament at Oxford, and other public affairs, as well as those of a private nature concerning myself. But I am weary of my undertaking, which begins to increase into a bulk ; and, as my avocations abroad call me, I here break off the thread of my narration.

Note by the Grandson of the Author.

This is continued down only to the 31st year of his age, 1682, so that from that time till 1724, there is no mention made of himself or family. I wish he had continued his history on, as I am persuaded from other accounts that several very remarkable occurrences must have happened to himself and [family] in that time. I am afraid some misfortunes amidst various other contingencies stifled the whole. This interval of silence was at least 42 years.*

Some occurrences mentioned by him in—

1724, October 26. Since many things will happen to me, though 73 years of age, which I should be desirous of knowing afterwards, I have committed them to writing, not choosing to trust them to my memory, which may fail me.

January 10, 1723-4. Stephan Heath, Rector of Bermondsey, died.

February 11, 1723-4, was presented to that living by the Bishop of Winchester,† and inducted into it the next day.

* The translator made these remarks in apparent forgetfulness of the statement made by his grandfather in the introductory paragraph, that the memoirs had not been commenced until the author was forty-eight years of age, that is, in the year 1700. At that period Dr. Taswell seems to have surmounted the principal difficulties of his career, and in the concluding passage he had assigned his own reasons for discontinuing the task—namely, that he was tired of it, and had other avocations.

† It appears from the History of Surrey, by Manning and Bray, vol. i. p. 214, that Dr. Taswell was presented to the bishop of Winchester for institution to the rectory of Bermondsey, by William Browning, fellmonger, of that parish, who had purchased a term in the advowson, and who afterwards, on Dr. Taswell's resignation in February, 1724-7, presented his son, the Rev. William Browning, M.A.

The same day Mr. Forester obtained from the aforesaid bishop a licence to serve as curate, to whom I paid 50*l.* per annum.

August 31, 1724, I received of William Scrivener, 7*l.* 14*s.* being half the interest of 308*l.*, which I lent towards repairing the church of Newington, of which I was rector.

September 3. I lent the said William Scrivener 62*l.* due to the mason, for the same use.

September 17. I lent 35*l.* to the same man, due to Thomas Adams, plumber.

Therefore now the churchwardens of the aforesaid church owe me 405*l.*

The history of the author, subsequently to the autobiography, so far as it has been preserved, was as follows:—

He proceeded to the degree of Bachelor of Divinity, March 25, 1685; and to that of D.D., July 11, 1698.

He was instituted to the rectory of Wood Norton, in Norfolk,* on the presentation of the Dean and Canons of Christ Church, in the year 1691; and exchanged that benefice in 1698, with Edward Stillingfleet, M.D. (son of the Bishop of Worcester), for the rectory of Newington, Surrey. In 1723-4 he was instituted also to the rectory of Bermondsey (as stated in his own memorandum already given); this he held for three years, and then resigned it to the Rev. William Browning, whose father had a term in the advowson.

At Newington Dr. Taswell “inserted in the parish register much useful information concerning the glebe land, tithes, and other emoluments of the church, and some notes relating to his predecessors and the state of the parish. He is supposed to have been the author of an anonymous pamphlet written to contradict the exaggerated

* In Blomefield and Parkin's *History of Norfolk*, iv. 455, his name is misprinted Faswell.

account of a cure performed at Newington, by Roger Grant, an oculist, on a boy born blind. In Grant's narrative, Dr. Taswell is falsely said to have been present at the operation, and his name was without his authority or knowledge subjoined to a certificate of the cure.*

He also committed to the press some other occasional works, namely—

The Artifices and Impositions of False Teachers, discovered in a Visitation Sermon preached at Croydon, in Surrey, May the 8th, 1712. Published at the request of the clergy and gentry that heard it. Lond. 1712. 8vo.

The Church of England not Superstitious; shewing what Religions may justly be charged with Superstitions. Lond. 1714. 8vo.

Physica Aristotelica Modernæ accommodatio, in usum Juventutis Academicæ. Authore Gulielmo Taswell, S.T.P. Lond. 1718. 8vo. Dedicated to George Smalridge, D.D. Bishop of Bristol, and Dean of Christ Church; by whom, he states, some of the readings had been suggested, and others by Sir Edward Hannes, M.D. His son, Edward Taswell, was then at Christ Church.

The Popish Priest unmasked; or, the Quaker's Plea for non-payment of Tithes uncovered. Lond. 1723. 8vo.

Antichrist revealed among the sect of Quakers, in answer to a book called "The Rector corrected." Lond. 1723. 8vo.

A letter to Dr. Atterbury, then Dean of Carlisle, of which an incomplete copy is preserved on the cover of the MS. of the memoir, alludes to some other literary work, which Dr. Taswell had written in the year 1705, but by the advice of his friends was induced to suppress:—

* Lysons' *Environs of London*, 1792, i. 395. "Dr. Taswell calculated the houses in Newington at only 660 in the beginning of the century; they are now (1792) about 1500 in number" (*ibid.* p. 396); in 1850 increased to 11,000 houses and 71,000 inhabitants; now about 12,000 houses and 74,000 inhabitants.

To Dr. Atterbury, Dean of Carlisle, 22nd Sept. 1705.

MR. DEAN,—Last night I saw Dr. Smalridge, who concurred with your opinion in advising me to suppress my book; and at the same time gave me the melancholy news of your son's death. There is a natural fondness for our own children as well as compositions. However, with submission to my friends' judgment, I am content to bury mine. I don't question but you as willingly acquiesce in the dispensations of Providence, which saw such infirmities in your child as would have given him frequent returns of pain and sorrow, and therefore in His infinite mercy took him hence. 'Twas my misfortune to lose a son of my own name; but I reasoned with myself that had God required me to part with an only son, which was Abraham's case, or had he deprived me of all at once, as in Job's, yet I ought patiently to submit to his will; how much more when he left me one of each sex. I considered that blessings of children did not consist so much in having many as in having good ones; that Abraham was as happy in one son as his grandson in twelve; that the loss of children is often designed as a trial of our patience; that those who bear it with patience and unanimity are commonly rewarded, as were Abraham and Job—

Dr. Taswell married, in 1695, Frances, daughter of Edward Lake, D.D. Archdeacon and Prebendary of Exeter, and Rector of St. Mary-at-Hill, in the city of London, in which church the marriage took place, and is thus recorded in the parish register:—

“Wm. Taswell, and Frances the daughter of Dr. E. Lake, were married in this church by Dr. Doughty, Prebendary of Windsor, upon Tuesday the 21st day of May, 1695.”

Dr. Taswell died on the 16th of June, 1731, being then in his 80th year; and was buried at Newington, on the 22nd of the same month. A flat stone in that church, on the floor close to the Communion table, (now probably boarded over,) formerly presented the following inscriptions, with the arms of Taswell and Lake impaled.

FRANCISCA

Uxor delectissima GUL^{mi} TASWELL, S.T.P.

Hujus Ecclesiæ Rectoris,

Filia viri venerabilis Edw^{di} Lake, S.T.P.

In lucem edita 10 Cal. Julii, 1673,

Vitam nimis brevem immortalitati commutavit
Cal. Julii, 1720.

Et hic situs est, una cum tribus Liberis

MARIA, THOMA, et NATHANIEL,

EDWARDUS, Filius ejus natu maximus,

Anno ætatis 25 peregre profectus

Tribus ante matrem septimanis interiit.

GUL. TASWELL, S.T.P.

Natus Cal. Maii, 1652,

Diem extremum egit 1731, anno ætat.
80.

JACOBUS TASWELL ortus Patri Jacobo et

Anna Kingsmill, 11 Junii, 1710, æt. 25.

This last-named James was one of several children of Dr. Taswell's father by his second wife Anne Kingsmill, who has been misnamed Elizabeth in p. 15. William, another child of that marriage, baptized at Limington July 17, 1690, emigrated to America in 1715, and his descendants now reside at Norfolk in Virginia.

Dr. Taswell left two sons surviving, James, born at Newington in 1700, and William, born there in 1708-9. The latter was the Rev. William Taswell, Vicar of Wotton-under-Edge, who had issue four sons, of whom the second was the Rev. Henry Taswell, the translator of his grandfather's memoir. He had no family; but his three brothers left children.



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